

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 408

By Fowler

A RESOLUTION to commend and thank Dr. Fred Obear for his honorable and meritorious service to the State of Tennessee as the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Interim Chancellor.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those honorable individuals who give selflessly of their wisdom and experience for the benefit of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fred Obear is one such estimable individual, who has performed extraordinary service for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career, Dr. Obear has distinguished himself as a tireless worker, a wise leader and a respected public servant with impeccable integrity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fred Obear began his illustrious tenure with UTC in 1981 when he was appointed Chancellor, a post he held until his retirement in 1997; and

WHEREAS, during his sixteen-year tenure at UTC, undergraduate programs in physical therapy and legal assistance were introduced and graduate programs expanded in English, nursing, business, public administration, and environmental sciences; and

WHEREAS, in his final two years at UTC, the campus's performance funding rating was the highest of any public university in the State; and

WHEREAS, as Chancellor Emeritus, Dr. Obear remained actively involved with the university, particularly in fundraising, and he served as a consultant to other universities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Obear graciously agreed to come out of retirement to step in as Interim Chancellor until a successor to the former Chancellor Dr. Bill Stacy was appointed and served in that capacity with distinction; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fred Obear is a model of selfless public service who has earned enormous admiration, recognition, and respect throughout Chattanooga and Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and thank Dr. Fred Obear for his service to the people of Chattanooga and Tennessee throughout his career and especially thank him for coming out of retirement to serve his State and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga when they needed him the most.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.